

Brian Schultz

From: Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 7:19 AM
To: 'David Cohen'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Good morning,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240032, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

Brian Schultz

Commission Deputy Clerk II
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.413.6770

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From: David Cohen <david.paul.cohen@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 23, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith <Commissioner.Passidomo.Smith@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Commissioners,

I was among the group of people that both emailed and spoke of my opposition to this matter. I understand that staff has recommended approval, however there is still tremendous opposition for all the reasons you heard by an energized vocal representation of the actual people affected by this proposal.

I also understand some of the legal constraints under which the PSC operates.

I would suggest staff is incorrect in at least a few of the analyses done.

The financial ability for EU to complete this project is truly insufficient. You heard many people tell you the cost estimates were incorrect and I do not see that any independent effort was made to verify EU's claims in detail. For one example, barge costs alone have been grossly underestimated, as have the impact of labor cost (and response times) due to having to wait for very long periods for barge access to the islands. Truly, all that had to be done was to look into actual barging costs of any of the home being built or repaired now.

You have testimony and documentation that water quality testing done by the state STATE near and around the island themselves are very good and, in some areas, pristine. EU's experts claim that there is bad water and the dying seagrass. While true, this is a very dangerous sleight of hand as the issues brought up by EU are actually located by the perimeters of golf courses, not near the islands, which are watered with reclaimed water from the same county plant the EU will be connecting to. EVERY SINGLE ADDITIONAL HOOKUP TO THIS COUNTY SYSTEM, FROM THE ISLANDS OR NOT, FROM SEPTIC-TO-SEWER EFFORTS OR NEW DEVELOPMENTS, ACTUALLY MAKE THE WATERS EU IS CLAIMING TO PROTECT WORSE AS UNTREATED NITROGENS ARE PUT RIGHT BACK INTO OUR WATERS THRU THE USE OF RECLAIMED WATER. THIS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE WATER PLANTS ARE CONVERTED TO ADVANCED WATER TREATMENT PLANTS WHICH IS MORE THAN 10 YEARS IN THE FUTURE. This is so clearly NOT in the public interest and you have the power to go against staff recommendations and do the right things for the public interest of the citizens.

Further, you have documentation that the county commission's letter of recommendation was written by EU's lawyer and simply adopted and not made a matter of public comment before approval. This was an underhanded effort to rally support and has many citizens writing to the commissioners urging revoking of the recommendation. And as I am sure you are aware, there were zero commissioners testifying or even present during the public testimony section of the overall proceeding.

Please be aware that you will not find a single environmental organization, private or governmental, that would support the proposed pressure system in and over designated marine sanctuary preserves. Any break would be catastrophic and I am sure you are aware of the many breaks in central sewer system for many different reasons and the subsequent dumping of completely untreated sewage into our waterways.

I am not against spending money to fix a problem, but there are several options available that would decrease or eliminate the problem EU alleges to address. IN FACT, EU IS NOT ACTUALLY FIXING ANY PROBLEM, MERELY MOVING THE PROBLEM FROM ONE LOCATION TO ANOTHER IN A VERY EXPENSIVE MANNER.

Please do the right things and deny this applicant.

Thank You,
David Cohen
8 Pointe Way, Don Pedro Island

Fulltime resident living here with my wife and father.
201-600-1450